renew the arrangement beyond May, 2004 with PTC. Subsequently on the request of Government of Madhya Pradesh arrangements for supply of about 100 MW during peak hours and 200 MW during off-peak hours was made towards the end of May, 2004 through PTC under bilateral arrangement.

(ii) In addition, Four (4) units of 125 MW each have been synchronized at Indirasagar Hydroelectric Project by Narmada Hydro Electric Power Corporation in the months of September and November, 2003 and January, 2004 and its entire generation, is supplied to Madhya Pradesh.

Bhakra Hydel Unit

839. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Bhakra Hydel Unit is on the verge of shutdown as the water level is plunged to the lowest level at 1466.14 feet; and

(b) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to prevent the shut down of hydel unit?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. The level of Bhakra Reservoir touched 1466.11 ft. on 14th June, 2004 as against the dead storage level of 1462 ft.

(b) The operation of Bhakra and Pong reservoirs of the BBMB are periodically reviewed by the Technical Committee of Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) consisting of representatives from Irrigation Departments and power utilities of all the participating States (of BBMB), for optimizing the requirements of irrigation and power generation. The Committee takes into consideration all the relevant factors while deciding the operation of these reservoirs to ensure irrigation supplies as also the power generation based on the water storage position in the reservoirs and the anticipated inflows during the period under consideration.

Power generation through non-conventional sources

840. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state the steps Government have taken to render help and encourage, States for non-conventional power generation and explore

various other resources to meet up the demand of power in view of a shortfall of thousands megawatts of power and the State depending more and more on power generating companies like NTPC, the NHPC and others, especially?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): A capacity addition target of 41,110 MW has been set for 10th Plan for power sector. In addition, 10th Plan capacity addition target from renewable sources is set at 3075 MW, against which a total power generation capacity of 1268 MW has been installed as on 31.03.2004.

The steps initiated for development and utilization of non conventional sources, *inter-alia*, include:

- Providing financial and fiscal incentives for promotion, development and utilization of non-conventional energy sources.
- Policies for promotion of power generation from non-conventional energy sources have also been introduced in several States.
- 18,000 un-electrified villages in remote areas, where electrification by conventional grid is not considered feasible, have been identified under Remote Villages Electrification programme for electrification using non-conventional energy sources.

Diversification by Power Grid Corporation into the Telecom Sector

841. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Power Grid Corporation is diversifying into the Telecom Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Power Grid Corporation has already invested Rs. 1000 crores into 20000 kms. of Telecom Network;

(d) whether Government is aware that the 20000 kms. of telecom network is under-utilized; and

(e) the steps proposed to review such non-core activities of the Power Grid Corporation?